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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,740	03/06/2002	Thomas Layne Bascom	12401	6843

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EXAMINER

STORK, KYLE R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,740

Applicant(s)

BASCOM, THOMAS LAYNE

Examiner

Londra C. Burge

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

PD

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed 5/17/2005.
2. Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1, 3 and 16 are independent claims and 18 is a newly added claim.
3. The amendments made to figures 1, 7, 9 and 10 have been accepted.
4. This action has been made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. **The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. **Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 12-14 remain and 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mangat et al. (herein after Mangat) U.S. Patent No. 6,049,799 filed 5/1/1997 (provided by the applicant).**

In regard to independent claim 1, Mangat discloses *a means for creating link relationships between document objects* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-13); *a directory that stores the link relationships* (Mangat Col 7 Lines 13-20); *means for distributing the link relationships to the users of the network* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 14-17 and Col 4 Lines 51-59); *and means for enabling the users of the network to use the link relationships to retrieve the document objects not previously available on the network.* (Mangat Col 13 Lines 33-40 and Col 18 Lines 37-44)

In regard to dependent claim 2, Mangat discloses *wherein a user of the network creates one or more link relationships, and the same user makes the document object available to other the users of the network by placing the document object on equipment electronically connected to the network.* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-17)

In regard to independent claim 3, Mangat discloses *allowing a first user of the network to create a link relationship between the first document object and a second document object that is available to users of the network* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-17 and Col 4 Lines 51-59); *storing the link relationship in one or more link directories; making the first document object accessible to the users of the network* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-47); *providing the users of the network access to the link relationship; and enabling the users of the network to use the link relationship to retrieve the first document object, wherein the link relationship provides the users of the network with information relating the first document object to the second document object accessed by the users of the network.* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 14-17 and Col 4 Lines 51-59)

In regard to dependent claim 4, Mangat discloses *wherein the step of providing the users of the network access to the link relationship comprises providing access to the link relationship only to authorized users.* (Mangat Col 16 Lines 5-12)

In regard to dependent claim 5, Mangat discloses *further comprising authorizing the users of the network to perform the allowing step.* (Mangat Col 16 Lines 5-12)

In regard to dependent claim 6, Mangat discloses *a first user creating or locating a first document object not previously available to other users of the network* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 14-17 and Col 4 Lines 51-59); *the first user locating a second document object on the network wherein the second document object is related to the first document object in some manner*

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determined by the first user; and the first user creating a link relationship between the first document object and the second document object. (Mangat Col 13 Lines 33-40 and Col 18 Lines 37-44)

In regard to dependent claim 8, *Mangat discloses wherein the first document object comprises annotated commentary created by the first user regarding the second document object. (Mangat Col 5 Lines 10-15)*

In regard to dependent claim 9, *Mangat discloses wherein the storage location for the first document object on the one or more host computers is determined by a user of the network responsible for managing the one or more link directories storing the link relationship. (Mangat Col 3 Lines 58-61 and Col 4 Lines 51-61)*

In regard to dependent claim 10, *Mangat discloses wherein the storage location for the first document object on the one or more host computers is determined by the first user creating the link relationship. (Mangat Col 13 Lines 33-40 and Col 18 Lines 37-44)*

In regard to dependent claim 12, *Mangat discloses wherein the step of enabling users to use the link relationship to retrieve the first document object comprises authorizing users to retrieve the first document object. (Mangat Col 16 Lines 5-12)*

In regard to dependent claim 13, *Mangat discloses wherein the first user is also responsible for the second document object, and the first user is identified as responsible for the second document object to other users of the network accessing the link relationship. (Mangat Col 2 Lines 65-67 and Col 3 Lines 1-4)*

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In regard to dependent claim 14, Mangat discloses *wherein the users accessing the first document object are presented with the link relationship created by the first user.* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-17)

In regard to dependent claim 18, Mangat discloses *further comprising means for making document objects not previously located on the network accessible to the users of the network.* (Mangat Col 7 Lines 46-55 i.e. document is not available)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 7, 15 and 16 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mangat et al. (herein after Mangat) as applied to claim 3 in view of Aldred et al. (herein after Aldred) U.S. Patent No. 6,209,036 B1 filed 6/6/1997.

In regard to dependent claim 7, Mangat discloses *transmitting a copy of the first document object to one or more servers; determining a storage location for the transmitted first document object on one or more host computers associated with the one or more link directories storing the link relationship between the first document object and the second document object; and storing the first document object on the one or more host computers* (Mangat Col 32 Lines 14-21).

Mangat does not disclose *assigning a network address to the first document object stored on the one or more host computers; storing the network address for the first document object in the link relationship*. However, Aldred mentions a document stored in a network address (Aldred Col 7 Lines 41-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Aldred to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of storing the document in a network address field for location of the document.

In regard to dependent claim 15, Mangat does not disclose *wherein the network address for the first document object is stored in a network address field of a link reference to the first document object*. However, Aldred mentions a document stored in a network address (Aldred Col 7 Lines 41-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Aldred to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of storing the document in a network address field for location of the document.

In regard to dependent claim 16, Mangat does not disclose *wherein the created link relationship comprises a link reference including a network address containing a bookmark*. However, Aldred mentions a links stored in a bookmark (Aldred Col 4 Lines 10-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Aldred to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of which will be beneficial for searching links at a later time.

9. **Claims 11 and 17 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mangat et al. (herein after Mangat) as applied to claim 3 in view of Kleinburg U.S. Patent No. 6,112,202 filed 3/7/1997.**

In regard to dependent claim 11, Mangat does not disclose *further comprising a step of targeting users of the network to which access to the link relationship will be provided by designating characteristics of the targeted users*. However, Kleinburg mentions links returned based on user specification (Kleinburg Col 4 Lines 34-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Kleinburg to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of return links based on user specifications and characteristics to ensure the user receives correct links.

In regard to independent claim 17, Mangat discloses *creating a link relationship between the first document object and a second document object wherein the second document object is any document object, selected by a user* (Mangat Col 2 Lines 9-13).

Mangat does not disclose *entering one or more targeted user characteristics; comparing the entered targeted user characteristics to available user characteristics; targeting users using the comparison; and transmitting the first document object to the targeted users*. However, Kleinburg mentions links returned based on user specification (Kleinburg Col 4 Lines 34-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Kleinburg to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of return links based on user specifications and characteristics to ensure the user receives correct links.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed 5/17/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that the prior art does not disclose of s directory that stores the link relationships (Page 6 Para 4). However, Mangat Col 7 Lines 13-20 shows a directory that stores links.

The applicant also argues that Mangat does not disclose *entering one or more targeted user characteristics; comparing the entered targeted user characteristics to available user characteristics; targeting users using the comparison; and transmitting the first document object to the targeted users* (Page 7 Para 2). However, Kleinburg mentions links returned based on user specification (Kleinburg Col 4 Lines 34-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply Kleinburg to Mangat, providing Mangat the benefit of return links based on user specifications and characteristics to ensure the user receives correct links.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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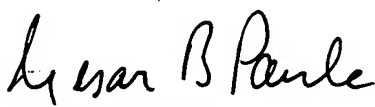
will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Londra C. Burge whose telephone number is (571) 272-4122. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LCB
7/12/2005


CESAR PAULA
PRIMARY EXAMINER